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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Dave Bina et al.

Serial No.: 10/825,985

Patent No.:

Filed: April 16, 2004

For: Plug-and-Socket Arrangement for  
Mounting Light Pipe to Receive Light

Attorney Docket No. 2519

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Allowed on:

Batch No.:

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**ADMISSIONS OF PRIOR ART UNDER 37 CFR § 1.56**

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants hereby admit that the following items, each considered alone, constitutes prior art in the sense that they predate the present invention:

1. Cyano-based glue or epoxy.
2. Strain-relief device 120 shown in Figs. 9a and 9d of the present application.
3. Flexible metal conduit 122 shown in Fig. 9b of the present application.
4. A water-tight covering for a light pipe, in a similar position to the metal conduit 122 shown in present Fig. 9b, but rather constituting a watertight jacketing such as a length of heat shrink PVC or a watertight hose similar to a garden hose. In such case, as long as the connection (e.g., like 118, Fig. 9b) to the plug (e.g., like 54a, Fig. 9b) can be made in a watertight manner (such as with a prior art Heyco-brand compression fitting), then the system would be watertight.
5. Fire-retardant material for ensheathing and protecting a light pipe, comprising, for instance, halogenated plastic. Halogenated plastics form when either bromine or chlorine are combined with a plastic to give the resultant material fire-retardant properties. Since these halogenated materials are not very eco-friendly, a new set of non-halogenated fire-retardant materials are beginning to become available, such as described in Cite No. 1 of the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement Form PTO/SB/08B.
6. A rod hub for mounting a single, refractory, thermally isolating, light-collection rod for receiving light from a light source. One example is Fiberstars' Model AD illuminator,

shown in the attached Appendix 1 in the top, right figure on the second page. Appendix 1 was taken from the following web address on 22 June 2004:

[http://www.fiberstars.com/pdfs/fixture\\_pdfs/efo/efospecsheet.pdf](http://www.fiberstars.com/pdfs/fixture_pdfs/efo/efospecsheet.pdf) .

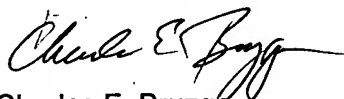
7. A groove contoured into an item, such as a plate, for receiving an O-ring.
8. A compressible gasket.
9. Various devices using keyways to prevent installation of incompatible parts, such as (a) lock and key for locking a door, (b) certain types of light bulb sockets using small pins to prevent incorrect installation of a light bulb, and (c) various electrical connectors using features such as a tab or differently-sized electrical terminal to prevent incorrect connection of one connector to another.

If the examiner requires amplification on any of the foregoing items from the Applicants, she or he is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

I certify that the foregoing document and any document(s) referenced below are being mailed by first-class mail, postage-prepaid, to the address stated above on the date stated below.

Dated: August 17, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Appendix 1